

An Index to 'Bird-Lore.'¹— To those who have had occasion to compile information upon any species of bird or upon the birds of any State the need of an index to 'Bird-Lore' has at once been apparent. Only by going over the index or contents of each volume separately could the vast store of data contained in this journal be made available. We were therefore prepared to welcome any general index that might appear and the one that has been compiled by Mr. Ernest Ingersoll and published by the National Association of Audubon Societies, will doubtless meet the requirements of the majority of those who will use it. Unfortunately, however, when compared with the two indexes to 'The Auk' compiled respectively under the direction of Drs. Jonathan Dwight, and Theodore S. Palmer, it falls far below their standard of excellence.

A perusal of a few pages shows an evident lack of system in the compilation. Of two titles 'Photographing a Ruffed Grouse' and 'Photographing a Virginia Rail' for example, one is indexed under 'photographing' the other under 'Virginia,' though we find references also under 'Grouse' and 'Rail.' Two others, 'A Crow Study' and 'A Hermit Thrush in Winter' appear respectively under 'a' and 'Hermit,' and we fail to find the latter under 'Thrush' where the other references to the species occur. While it is the evident intention to index each article under the author and the bird of which it treats, we find that in many cases one reference or the other has been omitted. However indexes are thankless jobs and the present one will answer the purposes of the majority of those who use it, and be a great help to all. But it seems unfortunate that where so much effort has been expended, a little more care was not exercised. A series of page references to papers relating to the birds of each State and country would also have been a welcome addition.— W. S.

A Bibliography of British Ornithology.²— For thirty-six years the only work dealing solely with the bibliography of British Ornithology has been the fourth installment of Dr. Coues' famous 'Ornithological Bibliography.' The present work by W. H. Mullens and H. Kirke Swann is much more pretentious than that of Dr. Coues and is arranged on a different plan. It contains biographical sketches of most of the authors, which

¹ An Index to Bird-Lore. Volumes I to XV, inclusive, containing a Reference to Every Contributor, Article and Topic; an Analytic Index to the Colored Plates and other Illustrations; and an Index to Books and Periodicals Reviewed. Compiled by Ernest Ingersoll. For sale by the National Association of Audubon Societies, 1974 Broadway, New York City. 1916. Price 50 cents.

² A Bibliography of British Ornithology from the Earliest Times to the End of 1912. Including Biographical Accounts of the Principal Writers and Bibliographies of their Published Works. By W. H. Mullens, M. A., LL.M., F. L. S., M. B. O. U. and H. Kirke Swann. "Let no man who writes a book presume to say when he will have finished. When he imagines that he is drawing near to his journey's end, Alps rise on Alps, and he continually finds something to add and something to correct." MacMillan and Co., Limited, St. Martin's Street, London. 1916. Svo. Pt. 1. pp. 1-112, 6/net. To be completed in about six bi-monthly Parts.

are arranged alphabetically, the papers of each author following the sketch in chronological order. The amount of data that the authors have gathered together is enormous, and historians and biographers in general will find this work a veritable mine of information. Ornithologists are seldom narrow, and we find that most of the authors here enumerated were noted in other fields as well. William Bullock whose name is ever associated with the early collections of Mexican birds, is listed as a 'naturalist, collector, traveller, antiquary, auctioneer and showman' while he describes himself on the cover of his 'Museum Companion' as 'Silver-Smith, Jeweller, Toyman and Statue Figure Manufacturer.'!

In addition to the account of Bullock, American ornithologists will find facts of interest in the sketch of Capt. Thomas Brown, publisher of the 'Illustrations of American Ornithology,' and 'Game Birds of North America,' two of the rarest of American ornithological works, while the biographers of Thomas Bewick and Daines Barrington will attract many. We shall look with interest for the succeeding parts of this important work,—a work that should be in all reference libraries.—W. S.

Todd on *Dysithamnus mentalis*.¹—In this paper Mr. Todd has presented a painstaking monograph of a difficult genus of Formicariidæ including detailed descriptions, full synonymy, maps showing the distribution of the species, lists of specimens, and extracts from literature relating to habits, etc. In all respects this is a model piece of work and one which could well be followed by other writers. Five species of the genus are recognized: *D. mentalis* (divided into five races), *semicinereus*, *extremus*, *affinis* (three races) and *andrei*. The new forms are *D. m. aequatorialis* (p. 539), Zaruma, Ecuador, *D. m. lateralis* (p. 540), Guarico, Venezuela; and *D. extremus* (p. 549), Cauca, Colombia.—W. S.

Cherrie on New Neotropical Birds.²—Mr. Cherrie describes ten new South American birds from the collections of the American Museum of Natural History. Two of these were secured by S. M. Klages in Venezuela: *Hemithraupes flavicollis auricularis* (p. 389), Suapure; and *Argicus macrodactylus caurensis* (p. 389), La Union. One was obtained in the Orinoco Delta by Dr. Rusby: *Piaya rutila orinoensis* (p. 393); while the rest were all collected by Mr. Cherrie himself on the Collins-Day Expedition, viz.: *Xiphorhynchus guttata rimarum* (p. 391), Rio Espirito Santo, Bolivia, *Taraba major virgultorum* (p. 391), *Capito auratus insperatus* (p. 391), *Piaya rutila chaparensis* (p. 392), and *Hypocnemis collinsi* (p. 395), all from Todos Santos, Bolivia; *Dryophila phantatis* (p. 396), Cocha-

¹ On *Dysithamnus mentalis* and its Allies. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. XXXV, pp. 533-560. August 10, 1916.

² Two New Birds from Venezuela. New Birds from the Collection of the Collins-Day Expedition to South America. By George K. Cherrie. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., XXXV, pp. 389 and 391-398.